

PSALM 138 vs 1

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This Psalm is wisely placed. Whoever edited and arranged these sacred poems, he had an eye to apposition and contrast. There is a time to be silent, lest we cast pearls before swine; and there is a time to speak openly, lest we be found guilty of cowardly non-confession – Charles Spurgeon.

Many modern critics now days, are to the word of God what blow-flies are to the food of men: they cannot do any good, and unless relentlessly driven away they do great harm. **Mercy = getting what we do not deserve**



A Psalm of David,

¹ I thank You with all my heart: I sing praise to You before the gods

/ if others will not praise the Lord, that is all the more reason why we should do so, and do it vigorously. We need a broken heart to mourn our own sins, but a whole heart to praise the Lord's perfections. If ever our heart is whole and wholly occupied with one thing, it should be when we are giving thanks and praise to the Lord. Why should these idols rob YHWH of His praises? – Charles Spurgeon.

² I worship toward Your holy temple, and give thanks to Your name for, Your mercy and Your truth: for You enlarged in fact Your word according to all Your name / at first glance this is a dark sentence, but as a judicious translator well observes, the words may be thus read, and will agree:

You enlarged Your name above all things, in Your word / what You freely promised, You faithfully performed; what You spoke with your mouth, you fulfilled with Your hand – James Nalton, 1664.

True believers hear the thunder of His justice, yet they do not doubt His love. Not only do men attack the love of God, but the truth of God is at this time assailed on all sides, some doubt the truth of the inspired record as to its histories, others challenge the doctrines, many sneer as if it were the writing of imposters and fables, and only worthy to be carped at. If that sounds like you, check out: [Jesus Christ and Nanotechnology](#).

³ On the day I called, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.

⁴ All the kings of the earth thank You, O LORD, when they hear the words of Your mouth / 3000 years after David wrote this, another 500,000,000 Bibles will be purchased this year all over the world; so somebody loves to hear the word of the Lord; the words He shared long ago.

⁵ Yes, they sing of the ways of the LORD: for great is the glory of the LORD / Paul let us know Jesus the Messiah, He is **the glory of God**.

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6 Though the LORD is lifted up, yet He respects the lowly: but the proud He knows from afar / why? do they stink? is it just me? Or does anybody

else notice our Great God has a sense of humor: we know God loves to take care of the widow, the fatherless, the stranger, and the poor; that's something He does and wants us to do; it's close to His heart; but the royal fat-heads and jackasses of the world, they must stink or something, He keeps them at a distance. He will scarce touch him with a pair of tongs -- Joseph Caryl, 1602-1673:

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You revive me: You stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand saves me.

8 The LORD will accomplish what concerns me: Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever:

Do not abandon the works of Your own hands / for by His grace we are saved through faith and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, lest any should boast, **for we are His poem, created in Christ Jesus to do His good works** – Ephesians 2.

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